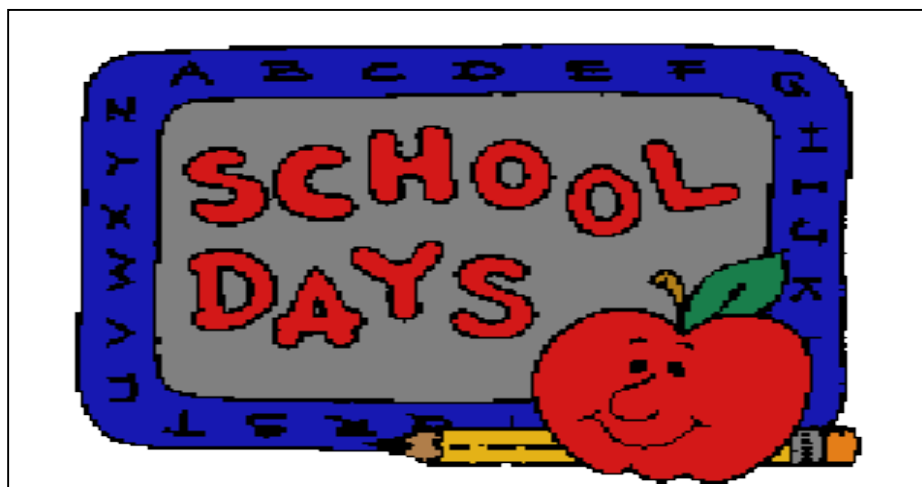


**THE VILLAGE
SCHOOL
VOICE**

**October & November
2015**



October		November	
7 th & 8 th	Picture Day	5 th & 6 th	School Closed
12 th	School Closed	10 th	PSA Meeting (9:15 a.m)
13 th	PSA NIGHT MEETING (7:30 p.m.)	11 th	School Closed
21 st	Waste Free Wednesday	18 th	Waste Free Wednesday
20 th -24 th	Red Ribbon Week	19 th	School Store
22 nd	School Store	20 th	Half Day (4hr Session)
22 nd	Ladies Night Out Fundraiser	23 rd	Half Day (4hr Session)
31 st	Trunk or Treat	24 th	Half Day (4hr Session)
		25 th	Half Day (4hr Session)
		26 th & 27 th	No School (Thanksgiving)



Mr. Brian Schillaci

Village School is on the move! We are so happy to be underway with our wonderful returning students and families, a fantastic group of new students and families, and the most outstanding staff in the world! Thank you to our entire school community for doing a great job helping with a smooth transition back to school for the children. Make sure to remember our three hopes for the students this year---Safety, Learning, and Fun!

Our Back-To-School Nights were a great time to build those lasting relationships between staff and families, always with the best interests of the students in mind. Parental participation is one of the biggest reasons our children are so successful. The connection built between teachers, parents, and students is key for children to achieve in all aspects of school. Please make sure to keep the lines of communication open throughout the year. By working together as a team, our students will be the ones who reap the rewards.

Get ready for 21st Century learning at Village School! Thanks to the efforts of many stakeholders, the Board of Education, and an unbelievable gifting initiative by the Holmdel Foundation for Educational Excellence (HFEE) all 2nd and 3rd grade students and staff members have a full cart of Chromebooks in their individual classrooms. Additionally, the Parent School Association (PSA) has gifted our 1st graders two tablet carts for use throughout the grade level. Finally, these first two initiatives allowed our Kindergarten students and staff the opportunity to share an ipad cart for their 21st Century learning needs. All of this is in addition to two wonderful computer labs available to students and staff throughout the day. Continued training and support is being provided by our Technology Coaches and Technology Staff. This is a truly exciting time, displaying a truly collaborative effort, to do great things for kids by infusing technology into everyday learning!

I would like to thank everyone for the support you have shown in preparing your children for a fantastic school year. We are off to a great start, and I look forward to a wonderful year. I wish you the best, as we begin this journey together for an amazing 2015-16 Village School experience!



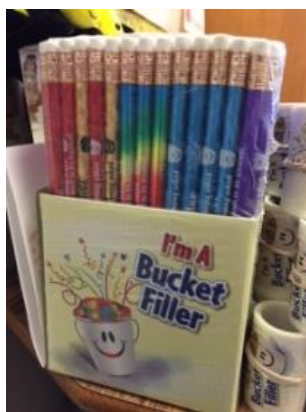
A message from Assistant Principal Mrs. Jessica Vierschilling

Welcome to another amazing school year at Village! With September in our recent past, I hope you have all settled into comfortable routines with your family and familiarized yourself with all the “need to know” information concerning your child here at school. Always know that your child’s teacher and all of us in the office are never more than an email or phone call away to help as any questions arise!

Everywhere you look around Village School, learning abounds! With our focus on STEM and integrating technology as we embrace what it means to be a 21st century learner, our teachers are bringing lessons to life in new and creative ways.

Our character education continues to center on the bucket filling philosophy, and students are engaged in thinking about what it means to be a bucket filler throughout all aspects of the day; on the bus, in our classrooms, and during lunch and recess!

We have implemented a new way to encourage and reward students for their good conduct during lunch and recess. A “mystery bucket filler” is chosen from each class, by each lunch supervisor, each day. No one knows who has been picked so the whole class has to be on their best behavior! The selected student is watched extra closely, and when able to demonstrate bucket filling behavior, he or she earns a golden bee sticker, and the checklist certificate that was used to note their great behavior! Sometimes a second chance is necessary and that is ok too, as the child then knows exactly what he or she needs to work on. At the end of the week, the whole lunchroom celebrates the mystery bucket fillers with an “Awesome” cheer and a pencil or bookmark prize! Keep your eyes open for when your child gets a turn to be the mystery bucket filler!!!



Thank you so much for the opportunity to get to work with you and your children. It is such a pleasure!!!



Dear Village School Families,

I hope you are all ready for a fabulous school year -- the PSA worked all summer to get ready and is looking forward to making this year better than ever!

I wanted to first take this opportunity to thank the Executive Board, Appointed Board and PSA parent volunteers who worked throughout the summer to prepare for the start of the school year. Their efforts ensured that the first few days and weeks of school went off without a hitch. Here are some of the September highlights...

The drop off of students during the first week of school went smoothly due to the efforts of Natalie Klobuchar and all our parents who volunteered to assist students from the bus to their classes during the first few mornings of the school year. Their positive vibe was palpable each morning because of their efforts, making the transition back to school better for our students.

Laura Lavell and the Special Events Committee organized two well-received events in September -- the Pre-K/Kindergarten Meet & Greet and the Welcome Back Fall Fest. We look forward to hosting more family fun events during the year. Congrats to Mrs. Campbells (PM) and Mrs. Savare classes for having the most parent volunteers for these kickoff events -- a pizza party is scheduled for this class in the upcoming weeks.

Christine Bowden and the Hospitality Committee made sure that the teachers received a well-deserved back to school luncheon during the first week of school. Thank you to all the families that donated to the luncheon.

The response to membership has been astounding thus far. Your membership dollars are crucial to set the stage for such gifting opportunities to support the academic mission of the district. For those who have joined -- many thanks! For those who have not yet, please consider doing so -- it is only \$10.00/family. Did you know that the PSA sponsors numerous events for the students, including educational assemblies? Also, your membership entitles your child to receive a Village School Yearbook at the end of the year?

Many parents and school officials have expressed their gratitude regarding the dedication of our PSA volunteers. We anticipate that practically every teacher will become members of the PSA, showing their commitment to maintaining a collaborative relationship with the parents of the district. I cannot say enough about the efforts of the PSA Executive Board, Appointed Board and parent volunteers who make everything that the PSA does a success.

Looking ahead...

The PSA Executive Board invites you to our first evening meeting at Village School on Tuesday, October 13 at 7:30. We hope to see you there.

Suzanne Serini, Tonya Romano and the Ladies Night Out Committee have a great night planned for us. Please join us on Thursday, October 22 for a great evening out.

Also, please consider joining us on Halloween for our Trunk or Treat here at Village School.

Best regards,

Vicky Flynn

PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN MEET & GREET

The Little Rockers Band



Thank you to all the families who attended the rocking PreK/K Meet and Greet. All of the kids smiling faces throughout the afternoon magnified the success of this event. The response of our Village School families to the PSA kickoff events has been overwhelming. We are busily working towards making our October events just as successful. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

WELCOME BACK FALL FESTIVAL



The Welcome Back-to-School Fall Festival was September 25th. Over 600 children spent time with their friends and families while enjoying a range of activities. Events included the pumpkin patch, "pumpkin" bowling, obstacle courses, fall tattoos, arts and crafts, soccer run by Holmdel FC, music by Incredible Soundz, mummy wrapping Mr. Schillaci and Mrs. Vierschilling, and snacking on donuts and apples. We appreciated Tom Critelli supporting the face painting station and Colts Neck Reformed Church Nursery School's "The Science of the Apple" table. The PSA welcome table with hot chocolate and coffee contributed to the beautiful fall afternoon. Families' creative scarecrows adorned the fence around the playground. Thank you to Mr. Schillaci and Mrs. Vierschilling for judging the contest. Congratulations to the Klobuchar and Lavell families for winning this year!

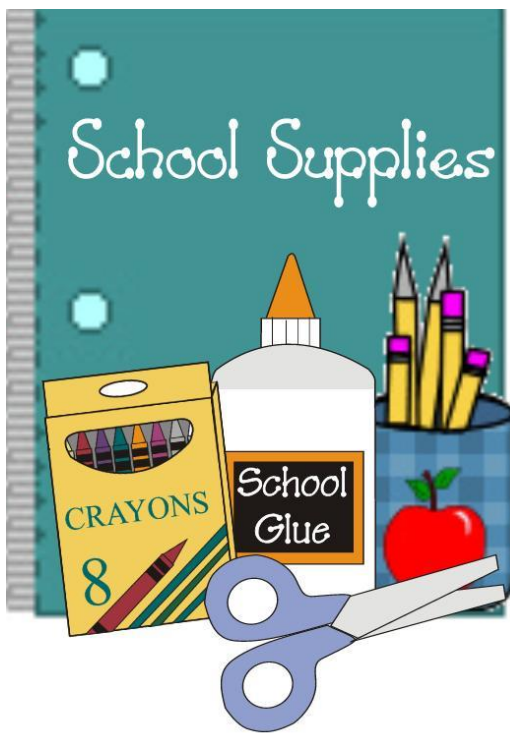
Thank you to all of the parent and student volunteers that helped the Fall Festival run so smoothly. Special thanks to Laura Lavell, Jessica Bresnick, Julieann DeMatteo, Susan Gordon, SySy Sidholm, and Debbie Traynor for all of your hard work to make the Fall Festival a successful event for Village School families.



We would also like to thank all of our parent volunteers who unloaded over 600 pumpkins and decorated the outside of Village School to make this event one to remember!!



Mrs. Campbell (PM) and Mrs. Savare's classes had the most parent volunteers and will be having a pizza party sponsored by the PSA.



THE NEXT
SCHOOL STORE
WILL BE HELD
ON
10/22/15
&
11/19/15

A special "Holiday Shoppe" will be held again this year at Village School. The shop will be running the same as it has in past years. The teachers will be assigned a specific time slot beginning Tuesday, December 1 through Friday, December 4.

We will be looking for volunteers to help during the shopping days and for assistance on Monday, November 20th to set up and display the items. Your help will not only be greatly appreciated but you will also get a sneak preview of all the new merchandise! If you are interested in helping please keep your eye out for our volunteer form coming in November. Mark your calendars now!



Village School Trunk or Treat

Saturday, October 31st, 11:00-1:00

Village School Parking Lot

\$5.00 per child-

*Volunteer your trunk and be entered into the contest
to
win lots of fabulous prizes!!

Registration still available on our website

www.holmdelparents.org



We wanted to thank everyone who donated their games, toys, puzzles and books. The children will be delighted to use the donations during their indoor recess.

Sincerely,

Jamie Placca & Shiela Scarpino

PSA Games Committee



The Story Pirates will present its Greatest Hits Show to students on October 29th. The assembly includes a wide range of stories written by children from around the country along with a story made up on the spot from students' suggestions. The fun, interactive assembly will inspire students to read and write their own creative stories.

Photographers

Photographers

The Historian Committee needs yearbook representatives to photograph our Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade class events for the 2014/2015 school year.

A few volunteers are needed for each grade level to photograph activities and events throughout the year. Opportunities will rotate among our volunteers to ensure coverage. You will be contacted prior to each date to determine availability. The names of the volunteers for that event will then be given to the main office for entry for that event only.

We will still be asking for picture submissions quarterly so we ask that all parents take pictures to send in to the Historian Committee. Deadlines and details for parent submissions will come at a later date.

This is a wonderful opportunity to officially record and document the growth and accomplishments of the children of Village School. If you are interested, please email Tonya Romano at PSAHistorian1@Gmail.com. Make sure to respond with your contact information including:

your name
email address
phone number





How to Upload Pictures to TreeRing:

If you do not have an account, please set one up using the school passcode: 1013778841231103

Once you have logged in, the screen showing will ask you to purchase your yearbook. Do not do this! The PSA will handle the purchase of all yearbooks. Simply click "Skip."

When you have accessed the account, click "4. Add Photos"

In the next screen, labeled PHOTOS you will see individual event folders. To add pictures, please click on the folder you wish to add to first. Do not click on the Add Photos button on the top right.

Once in the event folder, then click "Add Photos," and select where your photos are. Continue to follow the prompts.

TIPS FOR TAKING PHOTOS

- *Photos taken on phones are not at a high enough resolution to be included in the yearbook. Please use a point-and-shoot or DSLR for best quality.*
- *Please upload your photos in a timely manner - within 1-2 weeks from the event. The yearbook staff will be completing pages throughout the year and cannot guarantee photos will be included if they are received too late.*
- *When taking photos, groups of 2-4 children is best. The photos should be close up and capture the spirit of the event.*
- *When uploading photos, please be aware the upload does take a bit of time. We ask that you try to only upload photos that are clear and bright.*
- *Please no blurry or dark photos as they can not be used.*



Red Ribbon Week at Village School will be **October 19-23**, and this year's theme is "Respect Yourself, Be Drug Free"

Plans for the week include:

Poster Contest - classrooms will create a unique poster to be displayed in the Red Ribbon Hallway, prize awarded to the winner of each grade

Theme Days - such as Wear Red Day, Put a Cap on Drugs, and Healthy Living Makes Sense

Red Ribbon Week Star Board - a new and exciting way for our children to show just how bright they really are!

Stay tuned for more details! A letter with more details will be sent home in early October. Any questions or offers to volunteer, please contact Christine Schmitt at christineschmitt25@gmail.com or [201-424-4325](tel:201-424-4325)



Our School



Loves The Earth

The PSA's Go Green Committee would like to remind parents of our monthly "Waste Free Wednesdays," which will be held at lunch every 3rd Wednesday of the month. On those days, we ask that parents and children pack or purchase lunches that create little or no waste for Earth's landfills. Volunteers will be on-hand to show students how we recycle at Village School and to encourage their efforts at environmental stewardship.

Ideas on how to pack a waste-free lunch:

- put juice, milk or other liquids in a reusable container or thermos;
- pack reusable inexpensive eating utensils children can bring back home to wash;
- pack sandwiches/entree in reusable plastic or Tupperware dishes; pack fresh fruit such as apples, grapes, pears, bananas that need no container.

Go Green Update

We're adding several new products to our successful recycling programs at Village.

Bring your used inkjet cartridges*, empty tape dispensers, and dried out pens and markers to the bins near the front office. The Go Green Committee will turn them into cash for our school, a win for us and the environment.

*Please no laser or toner cartridges.

